

Colbert, Ed

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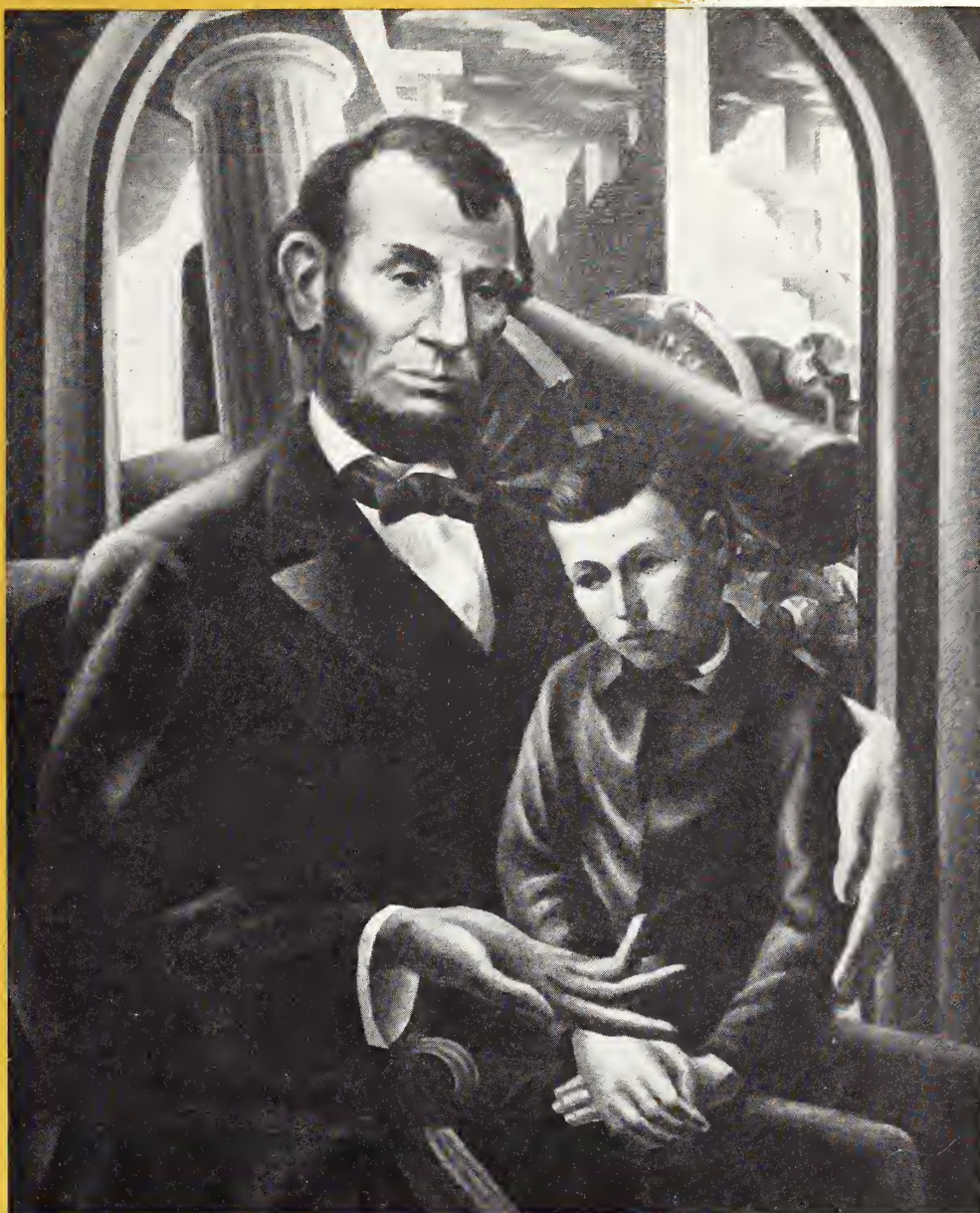
# Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Bob Gilbert

Excerpts from newspapers and other  
sources

From the files of the  
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# The Great Emancipator

**T**HE portrait of Lincoln, reproduced here in honor of The Great Emancipator's 136th birthday, was painted 12 years ago by Bob Gilbert, design supervisor, as a challenge to his artistic abilities.

After completing his training at Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles and the Art Students' League in New York, Gilbert specialized in mural-type oil paintings featuring highly impersonalized industrial subject matter. His work along this line, which has been exhibited throughout the West, was singled out on many occasions by Arthur Millier, *L. A. Times* art critic, for its sincerity and individuality.

In this painting, Lincoln is shown with his son, Tad, against a background which suggests the terrible destruction of the Civil War. Gilbert attempted to portray the great sorrow that weighed on the President's heart as he tried to explain to the child the necessity of the conflict and the essential rightness of the Union cause.

Using only a tintype as a guide to facial details, Gilbert subordinated the story to composition, design and color arrangement. The actual painting took about 150 hours, and the finished product is valued at \$500. Originally exhibited in the Oakland Art Gallery, the portrait was moved at a later date to the Foundation of Western Art in L.A., and now hangs in the office of Gilbert's father in Santa Ana, Calif.



Artist Bob Gilbert

JANUARY-FEBRUARY

# Fluor-O-SCOPE

## 1955

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